of Lucknow branch of State Bank of Indore have shown false entries to the tune of about one crore rupees in their accounts in the months of March/April, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). State Bank of Indore has reported that they have received a complaint from a staff member against the affairs of their Lucknow branch containing various charges including inflation of deposits. However, during investigation all allegations made were found baseless except that an amount of Rs.25 Lakhs was wrongly added in the accounts of Harijan Avam Nirbal Varg Avas Nigam on 30.3.91, this being the amount of cheque deposited by them in their account which was returned unpaid not debited. The branch manager has been issued a warning by the bank for the lapse. The bank has further reported that the increase in deposits during this period was due to a grant received by a department from the Government and deposited in this account.

[English]

Indo-Canadian Joint Ventures

1576. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of Indian businessmen visited Canada in June 1991 to explore the possibilities of setting up joint ventures by the two countries;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether a Canadian delegation also likely to visit India as a follow up of the visit of Indian businessmen; and

(d) the main industries proposed to be represented from the Canadian side and the future plan under the joint ventures including financial commitments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

A delegation of Indian businessmen visited Canada-India Joint Venture Programme sponsored by the Canada-India Business Council in cooperation with the Industrial Cooperation Division of Canadian International Development.. gency. The objective of this programme is to encourage and increase the number of Canadian joint ventures and technical collaborations with India. The programme is stated to have gone reasonably well and the experience gained is expected to be utilised to achieve better results in the remaining part of the programme.

In the second phase of the programme, a Canadian delegation is expected to visit India. The main industries that would be represented from the Canadian side include consultancy, Oil and Gas. Petrochemicals, Telecommunications, Construction, International Marketing, paper and Pulp, power, polymers, Steel;. dry cargo containers etc.

Amendments in Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985

*1577. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has sought change in the definition of sick company;